

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-03 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 221636

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, AF, PK

SUBJECT: AFGHAN COMPLAINT ON BALUCHISTAN

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 9522; (B) STATE 217902

1. DEPARTMENT CONGURS WITH ISLAMABAD'S QUALIFIERS ON LINE USG SHOULD TAKE IN DEALING WITH AFGHAN COMPLAINTS AGAINST PAKISTAN (REFTEL A). CLARIFICATION OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOA DEMAND FOR "NEGOTIATIONS" (WHICH WE SHOULD NOT RPT NOT SUPPORT) AND "DISCUSSIONS" (WHICH WE DO SUPPORT) IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT DISTINCTION.

2. DESPITE EXASPERATION PERENNIAL AFGHAN ADVOCACY THIS ISSUE MAY CAUSE, AS LONG AS PAK-AFGHAN DIFFERENCES REMAIN LARGELY WAR OF WORDS WE THINK IT SERVES OUR PURPOSES TO REFRAIN FROM VISIBLY SIDING WITH PAKISTAN WHEN TALKING TO THE AFGHANS. SO LONG AS AFGHANS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE WE
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ARE MODERATING INFLUENCE IN ISLAMABAD, GOA WILL REMAIN

WILLING TO AT LEAST LISTEN TO OUR COUNSEL OF RESTRAINT.
BUT IF THE AFGHANS SEE US AS SIDING COMPLETELY WITH PAKS,
GOA MIGHT BE DRIVEN TO DEPEND MORE EXCLUSIVELY ON SOVIETS,
POSSIBLY PROMOTING MORE RECKLESS GOA POLICY IN THE LONG
RUN.

3. THIS MEANS WE CAN REMIND THE AFGHANS OF OUR
COMMITMENT TO PAKISTAN'S INTEGRITY, BUT THAT WE SHOULD

NOT LEAD THE GOA TO CONCLUDE WE HAVE WRITTEN OFF OUR
BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THEM. THE AFGHANS KNOW WHERE
WE STAND ON THE ULTIMATE MERITS OF THIS CASE AND WE
SHOULD CONTINUE PUBLICLY TO SUPPORT THE TERRITORIAL
INTEGRITY OF PAKISTAN.

4. ONE TECHNICAL POINT: ALTHOUGH WE PUBLICLY ENDORSED
THE DURAND LINE IN THE SEATO COMMUNIQUE OF 1956, WE
SHOULD REFRAIN FROM CALLING IT THE "DURAND LINE" IN
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE AFGHANS, WHO ASSOCIATE TERM WITH
INJUSTICES OF BRITISH COLONIALISM. RATHER WE SHOULD
SIMPLY SAY WE RECOGNIZE THE PRESENT BORDER. KISSINGER

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